

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/558,377

Examiner

Kevin Verbrugge

Applicant(s)

AUTECHAUD, JEAN-FRANCOIS

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/8/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-48.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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Examiner's Comment

Examiner Thang Ho has left the Office and this case has been reassigned to the Examiner below. Prior to Examiner Ho leaving the Office in January of this year, the amendment dated 12/8/03 was received into the case but was not properly classified. Perhaps at least partially because of the failure by the docketing staff to properly classify the case as an amended case, Examiner Ho did not act on the amendment (he may not have been aware that an amendment had been received).

Once the Examiner of record below was assigned the case and noticed that a misclassified amendment was present in the case, he began the process of having the case properly classified as an amended case. That was finally completed on 5/2/05 and the case was placed on the current Examiner's amended docket.

The Office apologizes for the errors in handling the case and regrets any inconvenience this may have caused the Applicant.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In addition to the arguments presented by the Applicant regarding the differences between the claimed invention and the Hagersten reference (U.S. Patent 5,983,326), the Examiner notes that the claims require connection agents at the first interconnection level connecting the multiprocessor modules and external connection nodes at the second interconnection level connecting the nodes. While it may be asserted that Hagersten's subnodes 50 (shown in Fig. 2) anticipate the claimed multiprocessor

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modules (although Examiner Ho did not assert such) and that SMP nodes 12 anticipate the claimed nodes, there is no structure shown by Hagersten connecting the subnodes other than bus 20, which does not fairly anticipate the claimed connection agent since it does not "handle" transactions but merely passes them and since it does not have the same basic structure, external interface, and coherency protocol as the external connection nodes (asserted by Examiner Ho to be the system interface 24) as claimed.

Accordingly, the Hagersten reference does not fairly teach or suggest the claimed invention, therefore this case is passed to issue.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

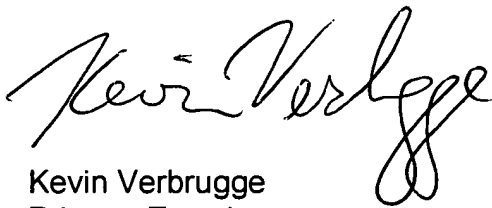
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this Office action should be directed to the Examiner by phone at (571) 272-4214.

Any response to this Office action should be labeled appropriately (including serial number, Art Unit 2189, and type of response) and mailed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, hand-carried or delivered to the Customer Service Window at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22313, or faxed to (703) 872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Verbrugge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" and last name "Verbrugge" clearly distinguishable.

Kevin Verbrugge
Primary Examiner
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